



Seattle Municipal Court Programs Addressing both Defendant Needs and the Municipal Jail Population

SMC Community Court

SMC Day Reporting



Presentation Purpose



- Provide information on how Community Court & Day Reporting began
- Outline objectives of the two programs
- Discuss the impact of programs on both defendants and municipal jail population



Community Court & Day Reporting Planning



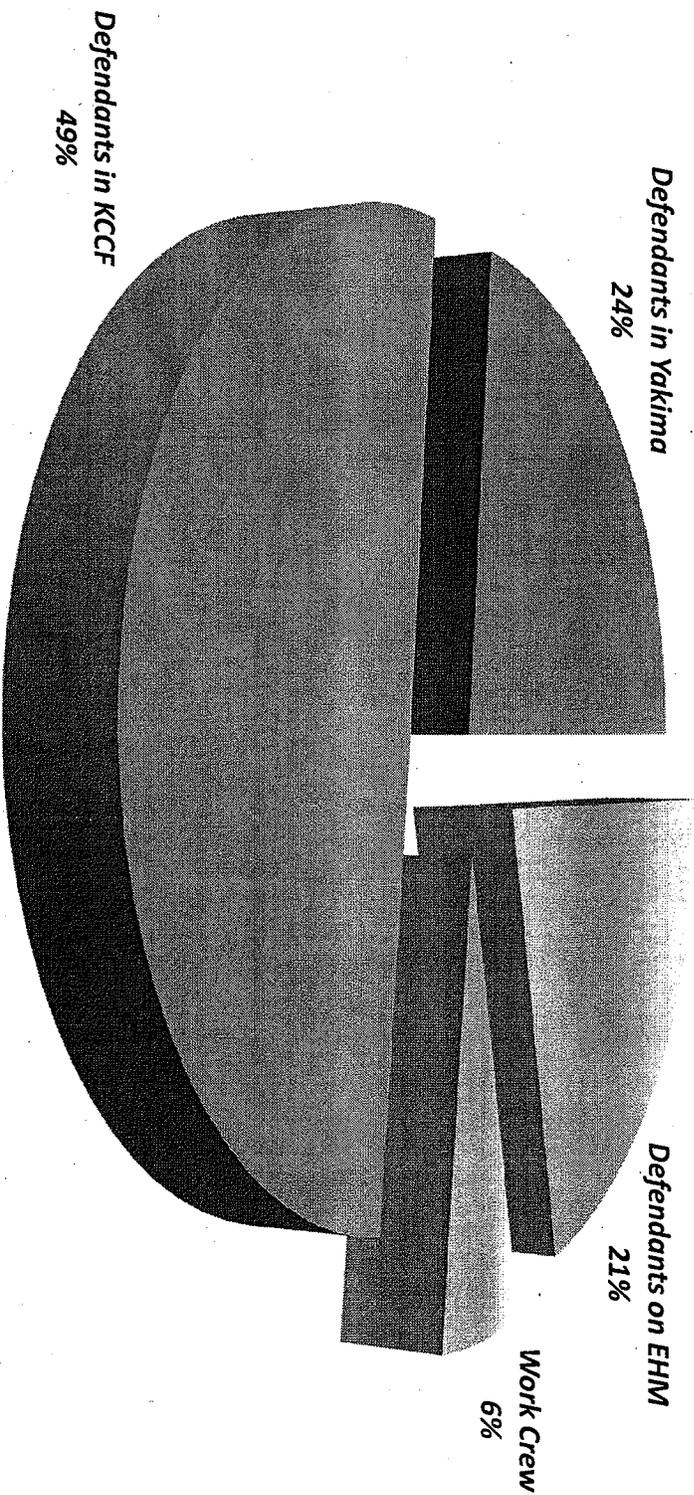
- SMC founded Community Court in 2005 and began the Day Reporting program in 2006, in a response to:
 1. *A low level, high need defendant population serving frequent sentences for quality of life crimes*
 2. *Increasing municipal jail pressures*
 3. *A lack of problem-solving alternatives. EHM and Work Crew kept defendants out of jail, but failed to address underlying causes of criminal behavior*
- The court and its stakeholders saw opportunities to both save money, increase public safety and better serve the community



SMC Alternatives prior to Community Court and Day Reporting



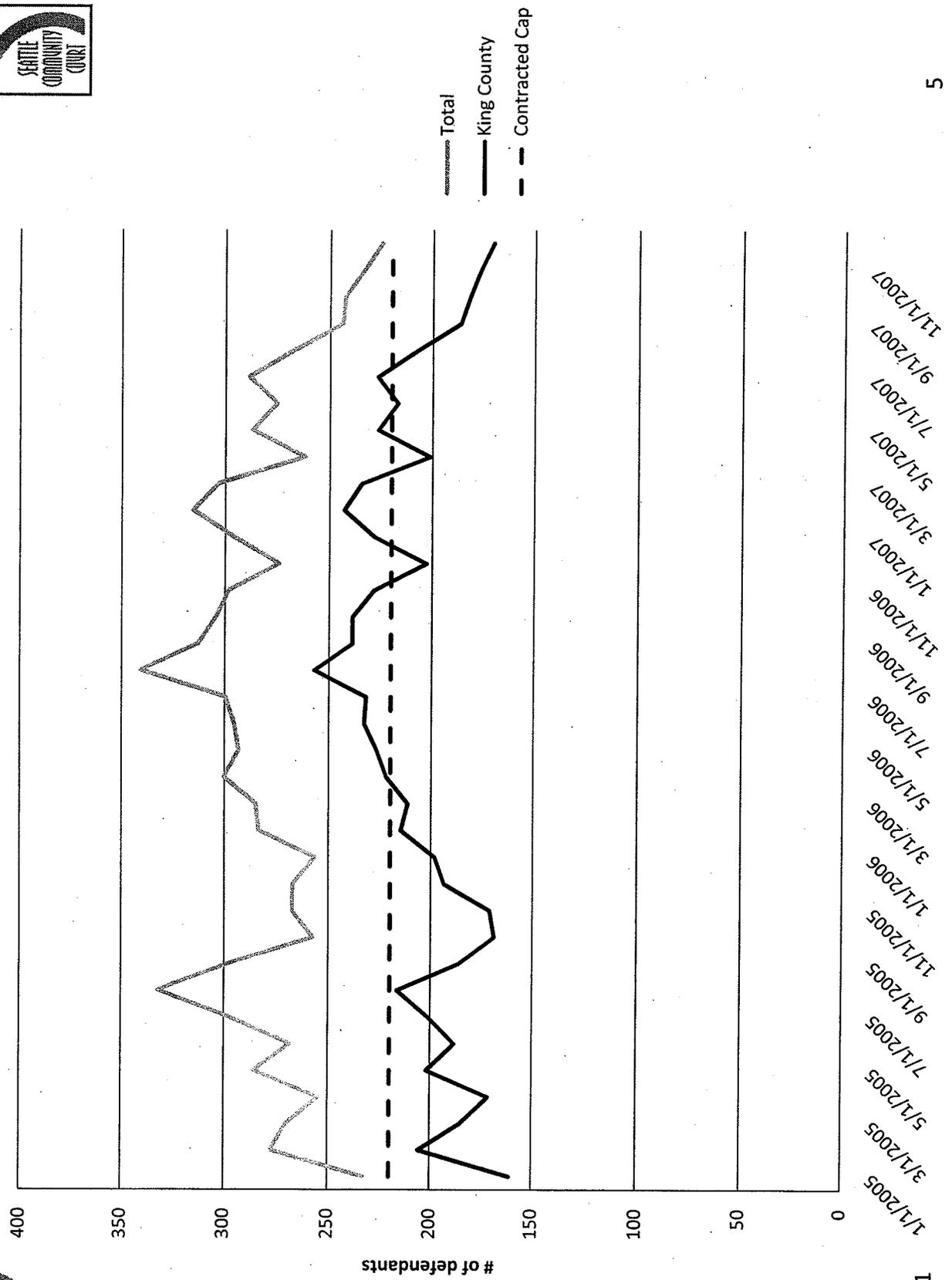
Average # of defendants per month by confinement type, 2004 - 2005



- Roughly 75% of defendants were incarcerated on either pre- or post-sentences



Seattle Municipal Jail Population by Location, 2005 - 2007





Community Court Inception



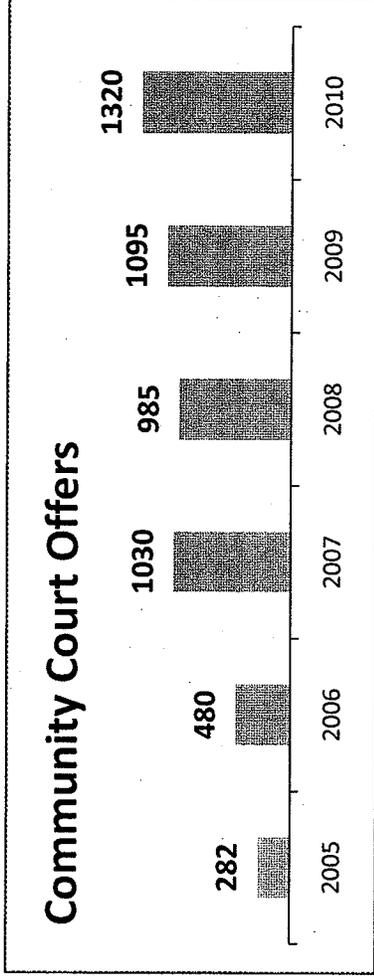
- Started in March 2005 as a pilot project to address low-level quality of life crimes impacting the downtown core. In 2007, it was expanded citywide.
- 26th Community Court in the nation, but the 1st to target the repeat offender.
- Program Goals:
 - Hold offenders accountable to the community through community service assignments;
 - Assist offenders to make critical social service links to housing, chemical dependency, mental health, education and employment services; and
 - Reduce jail utilization and recidivism.



Community Court Case Volumes



- 5192 offenders were offered Community Court from March 3, 2005 to December 31, 2010.



- Opt-outs, dismissed cases and multi-jurisdictional holds reduced the number of offenders who were ultimately mandated to community service and social service linkages to 4115 (80%).



Community Service Outcomes

- Offenders help communities with graffiti and litter removal, restoration of urban green space, assembling and distributing hygiene kits to the homeless, assisting at food banks and meal programs, and reviving neighborhood p-patches.

Community Service	Hours Completed
2005	1585
2006	2588
2007	6818
2008	8293
2009	12,150
2010	13,426
Total Hours Completed	44,860



Community Court Defendants



- Overall success rate from 2008 to 2010 is 51%
- Defendant profile:
 - 57% of successful offenders were homeless; the average length of homelessness is 15 years.
 - 81% were unemployed; the average length of unemployment is 5.5 years
 - 68% completed high school, GED or some level of high school. 23% completed some level of college. The range is no formal education to a Master's degree.
 - Veterans comprised 9% of the defendant pool.



Community Court National Model

Brochure



The Seattle Community Court program has generated national recognition as one of a growing number of domestic and international Community Courts. In 2008, we were one of three Community Court sites chosen as a “mentor site” by the Bureau of Judicial Administration, serving as a peer resource for other jurisdictions looking to improve their criminal justice system.

We have assisted the following municipalities develop their

Community Court:

- Minneapolis
- Las Vegas
- Spokane
- Tukwila
- Vancouver, British Columbia



Day Reporting Inception



- Began in March, 2006 initially with 2.0 FTE Day Reporting monitors at an estimated cost of \$175,000
- DR is located in the Court Resource Center where defts. can access DSHS worker, ADATSA screening, SMH services and referrals to community-based providers
- Program goals:
 - Broaden the continuum of pre-sentence alternatives to incarceration
 - Reduce number of FTA warrants for pre-trial and Community Court
 - Reduce pre-sentence jail population

Day Reporting Workload Measures	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Number of defendants assigned	403	638	668	902	949
Average daily population	28	48	57	97	115
Completion rate	40%	49%	52%	51%	50%
Length of stay	18	28	34	33	33

- Self reported data indicates 60% of DRC defendants are homeless, 70% unemployed, 72% have substance abuse issues



Post-sentence Day Reporting



- Day Reporting expanded to include some post-sentence defendants in 2008
- Slightly different program goals:
 - Broaden the continuum of sanctions Judges can use for defendants with history of failing to appear for review hearings
 - Provide opportunity for defendants to become more stable through increased daily monitoring
- 2010 workload measures:
 - Average Daily Population: 20 defendants
 - Program Compliance Rate: 57%
 - Social service linkages: 30% of defendants are being linked to new services including DSHS, ADATSA, housing, food bank and employment resources.



How have these programs impacted the municipal jail population?



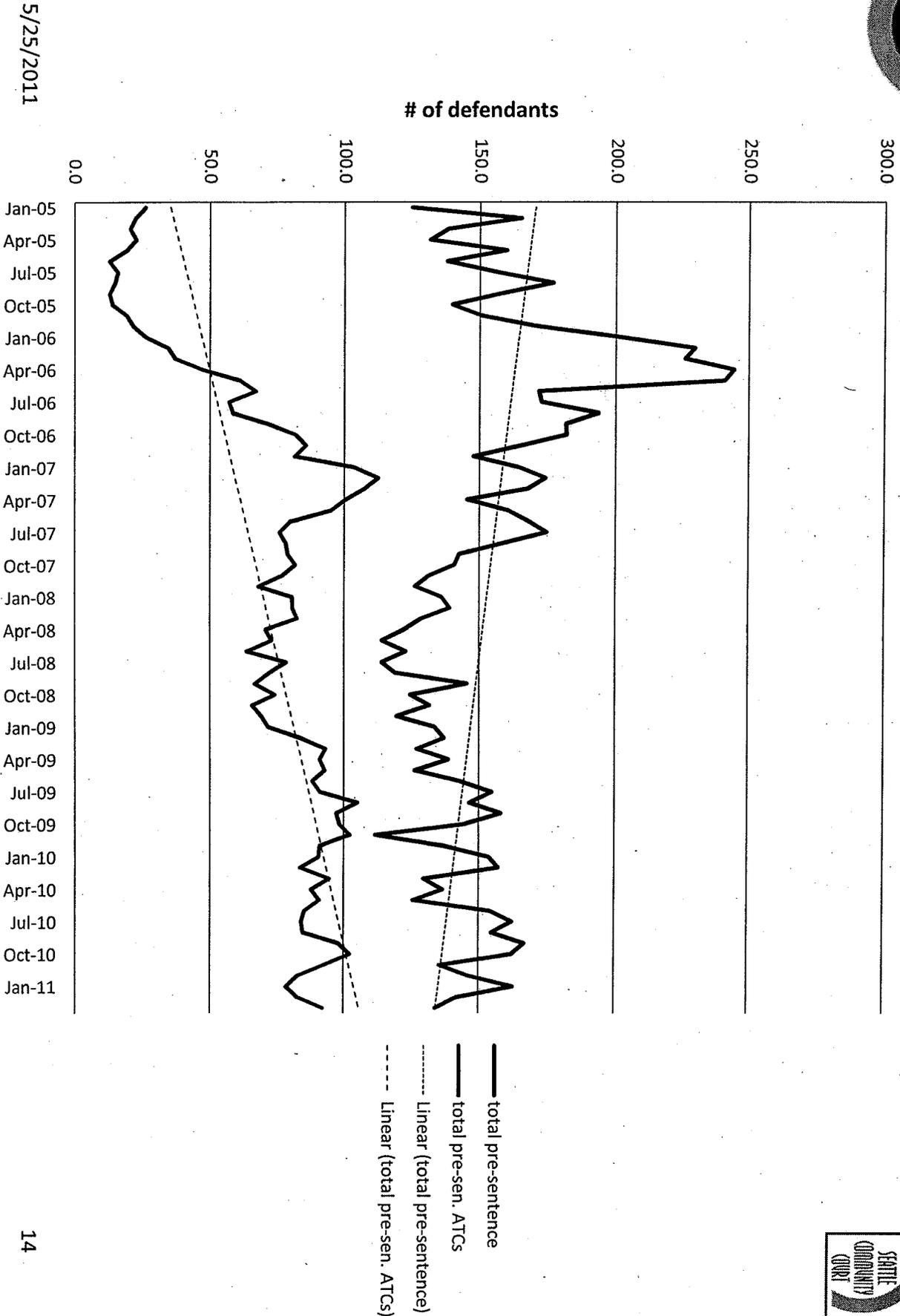
- While a lot of factors go into jail population forecasting, consider the following:

Year	Average # of defendants incarcerated	Average # of defendants on alternatives	Percentage of defendants on alternatives
2004	275	113	29.1%
2005	290	96	24.9%
2006	295	144	32.8%
2007	270	177	39.6%
2008	235	170	42.0%
2009	255	189	42.6%
2010	255	201	44.1%

- These figures do not include Community Court, which is not a traditional "alternative". But SMCC has also reduced the average # of incarcerated defendants



Pre-sentence jail population and Pre-sentence alternatives population, 2005 - 2011



5/25/2011



Estimated Net Jail Savings*, 2006 - 2010



Year	Community Court	Day Reporting
2006	\$ 140,139	\$ 191,480
2007	\$ 542,708	\$ 1,005,131
2008	\$ 481,328	\$ 927,519
2009	\$ 508,462	\$ 1,052,702
2010	\$ 692,852	\$ 1,255,137
TOTAL	\$ 2,365,489	\$ 4,431,969

* Estimated Net Savings factors in the direct costs (staff salaries) of operating the programs



These programs are not
singularly about jail savings



Community Court & Day Reporting also achieve:

- Defendant outcomes
 - Connections to social services
- Community outcomes
 - Close to 45,000 hours of community service completed
- Public safety outcomes
 - Increased compliance with court obligations



Contact Information



For more information on either of these two programs, please contact:

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